

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 4 and 15 are currently being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 8, 10-12 and 19 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-19 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 4 and 15. By way of this amendment and reply, the features of now-canceled claim 4 have been incorporated into presently pending independent claims 1, 8, 10 and 11, whereby each of these independent claims is now believed to be in allowable form. Also, the features of now-canceled claim 15 have been incorporated into presently pending independent claims 12 and 19, whereby each of these independent claims is now believed to be in allowable form.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 10, 12-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,163,621 to Paik et al.; and claims 5, 7-9, 11, 16 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paik et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,385,101 to Chang et al. Due to the amendments made to presently pending independent claims 1, 8, 10-12 and 19 so that they now include the features of either “objected to” claim 4 or “objected to” claim 15 (whereby the “equalizing control unit” element is changed to “equalizing control means” for claims 10 and 11) and their inclusion in the pending independent claims, these rejections are now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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